

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:453
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2006
NATIONAL GAS ADVISORY BODY
Acharia Shri Basudeb

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering setting up of National Gas Advisory Body to promote pipelines and city distributor networks as reported in Business Line on October 27, 2006;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has considered setting up regulatory body in respect of pricing etc. to protect the interest of consumers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRIDINSHA PATEL)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Government proposes to lay down a policy for development of Natural Gas Pipelines and City/Local Natural Gas Distribution Networks which, inter alia, envisages setting up of a National Gas Advisory Board (NGAB) by the Government to advise it on all matters relating to this Policy.

(c) & (d): Government has notified on April 3, 2006 the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006. The Act envisages establishment of Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board to regulate the refining, processing, storage, transportation, distribution, marketing and sale of petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas, excluding production of crude oil and natural gas. The issue of regulation of gas pricing does not come under the purview of the Board, except for transportation tariff for non-dedicated pipelines and facilities.